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EDWARD N. BONNER
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PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: Friday, February 25, 2005, 4 p.m.
Date/Time of Occurrence: Friday, February 25, 2005
Nature of Call: Thieving Hill Gang's Days Come To An End
Location of Call: Placer County
Released by: Dena Erwin, CSO (530) 889-6922
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SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

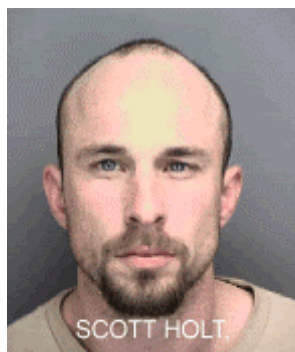
In the 1800s, Rattlesnake Dick became known as the "Pirate of the Placers" before his crime-spree ended at the hands of Auburn-area lawmen. It now appears that some modern-day outlaws, the "Thieving Hill Gang," have met a similar fate.

Instead of riding off into the sunset, the two leaders of the self-titled theft ring are cooling their heels in jail. Chad A. Beckman, the last suspect wanted by the Placer County Sheriff's Department for a recent string of vehicle thefts and burglaries, was arrested in Sacramento while driving a stolen car and leading police on a brief pursuit.

The Thieving Hill Gang included Beckman, 27, of Sacramento and Scott A. Holt, 30, of Loomis. Holt was arrested by Placer County Sheriff's deputies Monday and charged with possession of a stolen vehicle and stolen property.

The group named and memorialized themselves in graffiti, which was scrawled on the walls of an abandoned home in Loomis. It was at that home that deputies first discovered the men's cache of stolen vehicles and property on January 29.

Since the pair was arrested, deputies have recovered 11 stolen vehicles, stolen trailers and motorcycles and more than 100 stolen items. At the Colfax home where Holt was arrested Monday, 40 items valued at \$40,000 from a Grass Valley commercial burglary in December were recovered.



SCOTT HOLT



CHAD BECKMAN

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